Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /100 W

R 140926Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3048 INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ECRE, BENC, IR

SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: NISC STEEL MILL

- 1. NATIONAL IRANIAN STEEL CORPORATION (NISC) IS PROCEEDING WITH PLANS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.2 MILLION TON CAPACITY INTEGRATED PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF STEEL BARS AND RODS AT ISFAHAN. TOTAL INVESTMENT IS ESTIMATED AT \$1.5 BILLION. BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS GENERAL CONSULTANTS ON THE PROJECT BUT THE EQUIPMENT WILL BE BID INTERNATIONALLY, BY PREQUALIFIED BIDDERS.
- 2. WE ARE INFORMED THAT DISCUSSIONSLEADING TO PREQUALIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS ARE IN AN ADVANCED STAGE WITH ABOUT TEN COMPANIES. MITSUBISHI, SWINDELL-DRESSLER (U.S.) AND ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED U.S. FIRM ARE REPORTEDLY AMONG THE TEN WHICH ARE SEEKING TO BE PREQUALIFIED TO BID ON AN EQUIPMENT PACKAGE EXPECTED TO COST \$500-\$600 MILLION. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY SOURCE (NON-U.S.), NISC HAS INFORMED POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS THAT EQUIPMENT WILL BE PAID FOR WITH OIL. EMBASSY SOURCE IS CONVINCED NISC IS SERIOUS ABOUT BARTER ARRANGEMENT AND THAT A DEAL CAN AND WILL BE WORKED OUT.

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3. EMBASSY HAS NOT SEEN ANY OTHER EVIDENCE RECENTLY WHICH CAUSES US TO BE VERY OPTIMISTIC IN REGARD TO LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT NEW BARTER DEALS. HOWEVER, IF WIDESPREAD REPORTS AND RUMORS REGARDING IMMINENT RESOLUTION OF TWO-TIER OIL PRICE STRUCTURE ARE ACCURATE, THEN ONE OF THE MAJOR IMPEDIMENTS TO NEGOTIATION OF BARTER DEALS WILL HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, STEEL PLANTS, ROLLING MILLS

Control Number: n/a

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TAGS: ECRE, BENC, IR

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